

corresponding to the device;

(b) ensuring that the application will utilize the emulation module when the application is executed on the development system; and

(c) executing the application on the development system independently of the point of sale system, wherein the emulation module and the application emulate the interaction between the application and the device that occurs when the application is executed on the point of sale equipment;

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wherein the device is specialized for the point of sale equipment.

7. (Amended) A method for testing an application on a development system having an operating system, the application for use with point of sale equipment having a device, the application interfacing with the operating system and being capable of utilizing the device when the application is executed on the point of sale equipment, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) providing an emulation object interfacing directly with the operating system and corresponding to the device;

(b) ensuring that the application will utilize the emulation object when the application is executed on the development system;

(c) executing the application on the development system;

(d) ensuring that the application adequately utilizes the emulation object; and

(e) executing the application on the point of sale equipment;

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wherein when the application is executed on the development system, the emulation module and the application emulate the interaction between the application and the device that occurs when the application is executed on the point of sale equipment; and

wherein the device is specialized for the point of sale equipment.

8. (Amended) A system, including an operating system, for developing an application for use with point of sale equipment having a device, the application interfacing with the operating system and capable of utilizing the device when the application is executed on the point of sale equipment, the system comprising:

an emulation module interfacing directly with the operating system and corresponding to the device; and

means for ensuring that the application will utilize the emulation module when the application is executed on the development system;

wherein when the application is executed on the system, the emulation module and the application emulate the interaction between the application and the device that occurs when the application is executed on the point of sale equipment; and

wherein the device is specialized for the point of sale equipment.

14. (Amended) A computer readable medium containing at least one program for testing an application on a development system having an operating system, the application for use with point of sale equipment having a device, the application interfacing with the operating system and being capable of utilizing the device when the application is executed on the point of sale equipment, the program containing instructions for:

providing an emulation module interfacing directly with the operating system and corresponding to the device;

wherein the application is capable of utilizing the emulation module in lieu of the device when the application is executed on the development system and;

wherein when the application is executed on the development system, the emulation module and the application emulate the interaction between the application and the device that occurs when the application is executed on the point of sale equipment;

wherein the device is specialized for the point of sale equipment.

15. (Amended) A computer readable medium containing at least one program for facilitating development of an application on a development system having an operating system, the application for use with point of sale equipment having a device, the application interfacing with the operating system and being capable of utilizing the device when the application is executed on the point of sale equipment, the program containing instructions for:

emulating the interaction between the application and the device using an emulation module interfacing directly with the operating system;

allowing a developer to provide input; and

providing the input to the application in a form expected from the device;

wherein the device is specialized for the point of sale equipment.